

Michigan State Fair Grounds **Riding Coliseum, Dairy Cattle Building and Agricultural Building**

Address: Woodward and Eight Mile

Local	v	1/1/74	Buildings
State	v	9/17/57	Site
State Marker	v	1/17/58	Site
National	v	6/6/80	Buildings



Riding Coliseum



Historic Overview:

America's first state fair, conducted by the Michigan Agricultural Society with the support of the legislature and local citizens, was held in Detroit on Sept. 25-27, 1849. About \$800 in premiums were awarded for those "articles, productions and improvements" that were "best calculated to promote the agricultural and household manufacturing interests of the State." The site of this annual fair was often moved until 1905 when it was given a permanent home here.

Text as written on the Michigan State Historical Marker

The buildings, Riding Coliseum, Dairy Cattle Building and Agricultural Building were built between 1922 and 1926. They have a neo-classical appeal and designed by Lynn W. Fry, an architect from the State Building Department. The buildings were important in the growth and promotion of agricultural activities in Michigan at the annual State Fair.

